



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/601,617	06/23/2003	Louis A. Lippincott	42P17012	8912
8791	7590	08/10/2005	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030			MONESTIME, MACKLY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2671	

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/601,617

Applicant(s)

LIPPINCOTT ET AL.

Examiner

Mackly Monestime

Art Unit

2671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 April 2005.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-29 is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-9 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 10 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Response to Amendment***

1. The amendment received on April 29, 2005 has entered, and carefully considered, claims 1-29 are still pending in the application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Potts (US Patent No. 6,477,177).

4. As per claims 1 and 6, Potts disclosed the invention as claimed, including a method comprising: providing a register file accessible by a plurality of processing elements of a media signal processor (Fig. 2, Item No. 220; col. 6, lines 37-44; col. 10, lines 40-42); enabling a hardware accelerator selected from a plurality of hardware accelerators according to at least one bit of a register within the register file set by a processing element; and granting the processing element ownership over the selected hardware accelerator (col. 5, lines 63-67; col. 6, lines 1-15).

Art Unit: 2671

5. As per claims 2 and 7, Potts disclosed enabling a processing element to set a bit when the process desires selection of a hardware accelerator, and activating the selected hardware accelerator if the bit is set (col. 5, lines 63-67; col. 6, lines 7).

6. As per claims 3 and 8, Potts disclosed designating at least one register within the register file to receive control commands from the plurality of processing elements; and activating the selected hardware accelerator to perform a media processing function according to a control command detected within the register (col. 5, lines 50-60; col. 10, lines 40-42, lines 58-59).

7. As per claims 4 and 9, Potts disclosed providing a selection unit coupled to the plurality of hardware elements (Fig. 2, Items No. Proc #1 and #2; designating at least one register within the register file to receive control commands from the plurality of processing elements (Fig. 2, Item No. 220); directing the selection unit to provide a processing element with access to a selected hardware element, and directing the selecting hardware accelerator to perform a media processing function according to a received control command (col. 5, lines 50-60; col. 10, lines 40-42 and 58-59).

### ***Response to Arguments***

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-29 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

9. Claims 11-29 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Art Unit: 2671

10. Claims 5 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. The prior art of record fail to teach or suggest individually or in combination a multiprocessing system, wherein the system comprising the uniquely distinct structure: "a register file coupled to the selection unit and the plurality of processing elements, wherein the register file having a plurality of general purpose registers accessible by the plurality of hardware accelerators, and wherein the selection unit and the plurality of processing elements, at least one of the general purpose registers including at least one bit to allow a processing element to direct the selection unit to activate a selected hardware accelerator (as per claims 11 and 21). These distinct structures of the present claims invention have not found to be anticipated, suggested or made obvious by the prior art of record, either singularly or in combination.

12. The prior art of record fail to teach or suggest individually or in combination a method and a system, wherein the method further comprising the uniquely distinct steps of: "identifying a processing element having written the control command; determining, according to the control command, an input data stream for the selected hardware accelerator; determining, according to the control command, an output data stream for the selected hardware accelerator; directing the selecting hardware accelerator to perform a media processing function according to a received control command; updating a control bit within a register of the register file to indicate whether data is available for one or more data dependent processing elements, and requiring the one or

Art Unit: 2671

more data dependent processing elements to wait to execute instructions until the data it needs to execute the instructions is available in one or more registers" (as per claims 5 and 10). The above limitations of the present claims invention have not found to be anticipated, suggested or made obvious by the prior art of record, either singularly or in combination.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mackly Monestime whose telephone number is (571) 272-7786. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ulka Chauhan, can be reached on (571) 272-7782.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

**(571) 272-8300 (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

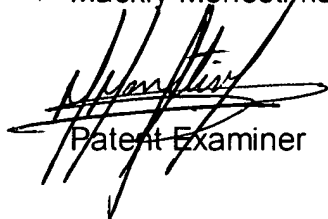
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,

Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Art Unit: 2671


Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Mackly Monestime



Patent Examiner

August 3, 2005



ULKA J. CHAUHAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER